

Introduced by Senator Galgiani

(Coauthors: Senators Anderson, Hall, Hertzberg, Huff, and Leno)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chu, Cooper, Dodd, Gordon, Lackey,
Steinorth, and Waldron)

May 4, 2015

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 53—Relative to Disability
Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 53, as introduced, Galgiani. Disability awareness.

This measure would recognize the month of June 2015 as Disability
Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, There are over 4,268,000 people with disabilities
- 2 living in the State of California;
- 3 WHEREAS, The State of California does not currently recognize
- 4 Disability Awareness Month, but municipalities throughout
- 5 Stanislaus County recognize June 2015 as Disability Awareness
- 6 Month; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Around 10 percent of the world's population, or
- 8 650 million people, live with a disability. They are the world's
- 9 largest minority group; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Persons with disabilities constitute the only
- 11 minority group you can join at any time; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Disabilities can affect all people, regardless of
- 13 race, age, gender, or social status. The essence of life is not
- 14 embodied by physical or mental perfection, but it is an integral
- 15 part of the human spirit; and

1 WHEREAS, Increasing public awareness about diverse abilities
2 is vital to fighting the stigma and discrimination that often serve
3 as a barrier to employment, socialization, and individual well-being
4 for persons with disabilities; and

5 WHEREAS, Within the next year, at least one out of eight
6 Californians will experience a disability, personally or through a
7 family member; and

8 WHEREAS, People with different abilities are independent and
9 productive members of the community. Education, understanding,
10 access, engagement, and relationships are important components
11 of a connected, livable, and healthy community. Communities
12 thrive when residents appreciate the unique gifts inside people of
13 all abilities. By developing relationships with our neighbors, we
14 make our community a place where everyone participates and is
15 a valued member; now, therefore, be it

16 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
17 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby recognizes the
18 month of June 2015 as Disability Awareness Month, and urges all
19 citizens of the state to become aware of the needs and capabilities
20 of persons with disabilities; and be it further

21 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
22 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.